

Update on Idaho's Electronic Health Record Incentive Program, December 2010

Here is a quick update on the Request for Proposals (RFP) seeking help writing Idaho's State Medicaid HIT Plan as well as the Implementation-Advanced Planning Document.

- A Request for Proposals (RFP) was released on 11-2-10.
- A question and answer session was held for potential bidders and several vendors were present suggesting a strong interest in this RFP
- It is expected that the review and scoring of all proposals will be completed in early January and that a contract will be put in place at that time

Other news:

- The data analysis of the environmental scan is complete. A report summarizing that information is now being written and should be available in January
- The Idaho/Washington Regional Extension Center, working with the Idaho Health Data Exchange and the State HIT Coordinator, created an Idaho Provider Outreach and Health IT Advisory Council with representatives from 24 different organizations, including Medicaid. The purpose of the Advisory Council is to:
 - Serve as a venue for all members to share information about their HIT related activities with other members of the Advisory Council to facilitate clear communication and allow members to disseminate that information to their constituents.
 - Assist in or provide recommendations in development of goals, objectives and measures for provider outreach and adoption.
 - Serve as an expert group to advise organizers' leadership on matters related to education and outreach to providers represented by council members.
 - When requested, provide recommendations and strategy options on effective provider outreach, education and Health IT adoption.
 - Serve as a forum for all members to leverage and coordinate efforts with ongoing Electronic Health Record (EHR) and other technical projects in the state.
 - Develop and coordinate joint communications, messages, outreach strategies and collaborative initiatives to enhance outreach and adoption strategies.
 - The second meeting of the Advisory Council will be held in January. Information will be posted about their progress as it develops.
- Idaho Medicaid has begun talking with neighboring states about ways to verify the Medicaid population numbers for individual providers who see out of state Medicaid folk or who travel out of state to provide services. There is much work left to be done here.

That's it for now. Have a great holiday season and look for more news next month.